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MAINTENANCE DREDGING PORT EVERGLADES BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The proposed project is the maintenance dredging of the Port Everglades Federal Navigation Project, Broward County, Florida and placement of the dredged material in the Entrance Channel, in the ODMDS or on John U. Lloyd State Park. I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposed action. This Finding incorporates by reference all discussions and conclusions continued in the EA enclosed hereto. Based in the information analyzed in the EA, reflecting pertinent information obtained from other agencies and special interest groups having jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise, I conclude that the proposed action will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Reasons for this conclusion are, in summary:

1. The work will be conducted in accordance with the Biological Opinion issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for impacts to manatees and nesting sea turtles, and the Regional Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service for impacts to sea turtles in the water. The propose action does not jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened or endangered species or adversely impact any designated critical habitat.
2. In accordance with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, it was determined that the proposed dredging and beach placement will not impact any sites of cultural or historical significance.
3. The proposed work has been determined to be consistent with the Florida Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP).
4. Measures to eliminate, reduce, or avoid potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources will be implemented during project construction.
5. Benefits to the public will be the maintenance of the Federal Navigation Project, continued economic stimulus, increased recreational benefits and erosion protection from replacing lost beach area, and increased nesting habitat for sea turtles.
6. State water quality standards will be met during construction.

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In consideration of the information summarized, I find that the proposed maintenance dredging of the Port Everglades Federal Navigation Project will not significantly affect the human environment and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement. A notice of availability of the signed FONSI will be sent to Federal, State and Local agencies and the interested public.

Date

ROBERT M. CARPENTER
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer